

REMARKS

Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 1-9 will be pending. Applicants propose amendment of claims 1 and 7 to incorporate the features of claim 10, and cancelation of claim 10.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. The claims have been amended to delete “without applying linear pressure.” In addition, the claims have been amended to specify that the cooling step is performed by a slow-cooling roller only, or by a slow-cooling roller in combination with at least one of a far infrared heater, a near infrared heater or a heating oven.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The features of claim 10, which have been incorporated into claims 1 and 7, correct the antecedent basis of “slow-cooling roller.”

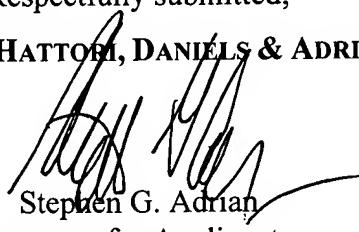
It is respectfully submitted that entry of the amendments after final rejection does not raise new issues which would require further consideration by the Examiner. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry is earnestly solicited.

Application No.: 10/582,884
Art Unit: 1791

Amendment After Final Rejection
Attorney Docket No.: 062404

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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